IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims **22** – **24** and **47** – **49** without prejudice.

Please substitute the following claims **1** – **175** for the pending claims with the same number:

1. (Currently amended) A method for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

identifying a designated portion of original text contained within a page, to be protected;

modifying the page, comprising:

encrypting the designated portion of original text to form a portion of encrypted text; and

replacing the designated portion of original text within the page with the portion of encrypted text;

rendering the page into a graphics device, comprising:

~~intervening with at least one function that controls page display layouts, comprising determining~~ dynamically generating a display layout for the page based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text instead of spatial characteristics of the encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout for the page corresponds to that of a page containing the designated portion of original text, said dynamically generating comprising decrypting encrypted text strings within a patched operating system function, the operating system function being used for determining spatial characteristics of text, wherein spatial characteristics of text include at least one of (a) positions of characters, (b) heights of characters, (c) widths of characters, (d) widths of words, (e) shapes of characters, (f) spacings between characters, (g) spacings between words, (h) spacings between lines, (i) numbers of characters per line, (j) numbers of words per line, (k) page margins, and (l) paragraph indentations;

decrypting the portion of encrypted text prior to displaying the page; and

converting text into graphics output; and

displaying at least a portion of data from the graphics device.

2. (Original) The method of claim **1** wherein the page is a web page.

3. (Original) The method of claim **2** wherein the web page is an HTML page.

4. (Original) The method of claim **2** wherein the web page is an XML page.

5. (Original) The method of claim **1** wherein the page is part of a document produced by a software application.

6. (Original) The method of claim **1** wherein the graphics device is a memory device.

7. (Original) The method of claim **1** wherein the graphics device is a screen device.

8. (Original) The method of claim **1** wherein the graphics device is a graphics port.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim **1** wherein said encrypting is based on encoding of characters.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim **1** wherein said encrypting is based on encoding of words.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim **1** wherein said encrypting comprises adding leading and trailing characters to flag encrypted text.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim **1** wherein said encrypting comprises padding encrypted text so that identical words have distinct encrypted representations.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim **1** wherein the graphics output is raster output.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim **1** wherein said identifying, said encrypting and said replacing are performed by a server computer, and wherein said controlling, said rendering and said displaying are performed by a client computer connected to the server computer over a network.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim **1** wherein said decrypting the portion of encrypted text occurs within a patched operating system function for outputting content.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim **16** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ TextOut function.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim **16** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Macintosh~~ DrawText function.

19 - 24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[**24**]] **1** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ GetTextExtent function.

26. (Currently amended) A system for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

a parser identifying a designated portion of original text contained within a page, to be protected;

an encoder encrypting the designated portion of original text to form a portion of encrypted text;

an editor replacing the designated portion of original text with the portion of encrypted text, within the page;

a graphics device;

a page renderer rendering the page into said graphics device, comprising:

a page formatter controlling a display layout for the page, by ~~determining~~ dynamically generating a display layout based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text instead of spatial characteristics of the encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to that of a page containing the designated portion of original text, said page formatter comprising a string decoder for decrypting encrypted text strings, said string decoder operating within a patched operating system function, the operating system function being used for determining spatial characteristics of text, wherein spatial characteristics of text include at least one of (a) positions of characters, (b) heights of characters, (c) widths of characters, (d) widths of words, (e) shapes of characters, (f) spacings between characters, (g) spacings between words, (h) spacings between lines, (i) numbers of characters per line, (j) numbers of words per line, (k) page margins, and (l) paragraph indentations;

a text decoder decrypting the portion of encrypted text prior to display of page; and

an output processor converting text into graphics output; and

a display device displaying at least a portion of data from said graphics device.

27. (Original) The system of claim **26** wherein the page is a web page.

28. (Original) The system of claim **27** wherein the web page is an HTML page.

29. (Original) The system of claim **27** wherein the web page is an XML page.

30. (Original) The system of claim **26** wherein the page is part of a document produced by a software application.

31. (Original) The system of claim **26** wherein said graphics device is a memory device.

32. (Original) The system of claim **26** wherein said graphics device is a screen device.

33. (Original) The system of claim **26** wherein said graphics device is a graphics port.

34. (Previously presented) The system of claim **26** wherein said encoder performs encoding of characters.

35. (Previously presented) The system of claim **26** wherein said encoder performs encoding of words.

36. (Previously presented) The system of claim **26** wherein said encoder adds leading and trailing characters to flag encrypted text.

37. (Previously presented) The system of claim **26** wherein said encoder pads encrypted text so that identical words have distinct encrypted representations.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) The system of claim **26** wherein the graphics output is raster output.

40. (Original) The system of claim **26** wherein said parser, said encoder and said editor reside on a server computer, wherein said graphics device and said page renderer reside on a client computer, and wherein said display device is connected to the client computer, the system further comprising network connectors connecting the client computer to the server computer.

41. (Previously presented) The system of claim **26** wherein said text decoder operates within a patched operating system function for outputting content.

42. (Currently amended) The system of claim **41** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ TextOut function.

43. (Currently amended) The system of claim **41** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Macintosh Draw~~Text function.

44 - 49. (Canceled)

50. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[**49**]] **26** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ GetTextExtent function.

51. (Currently amended) A method for protecting text contained within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

accessing a page containing a portion of encrypted text;

rendering the page into a graphics device, comprising:

intervening with at least one function that controls page display layouts, comprising ~~determining~~ dynamically generating a display layout for the page based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text instead of spatial characteristics of the encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout for the page corresponds to that of a page containing decrypted text, wherein spatial characteristics of text include at least one of (a) positions of characters, (b) heights of characters, (c) widths of characters, (d) widths of words, (e) shapes of characters, (f) spacings between characters, (g) spacings between words, (h) spacings between lines, (i) numbers of characters per line, (j) numbers of words per line, (k) page margins, and (l) paragraph indentations;

decrypting the portion of encrypted text prior to displaying the page; and

converting content into graphics output; and

displaying at least a portion of data from the graphics device.

52. (Original) The method of claim **51** wherein the page is a web page.

53. (Original) The method of claim **52** wherein the web page is an HTML page.

54. (Original) The method of claim **52** wherein the web page is an XML page.

55. (Original) The method of claim **51** wherein the page is part of a document produced by a software application.

56. (Original) The method of claim **51** wherein the graphics device is a memory device.

57. (Original) The method of claim **51** wherein the graphics device is a screen device.

58. (Original) The method of claim **51** wherein the graphics device is a graphics port.

59. (Canceled)

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim **51** wherein the graphics output is raster output.

61. (Previously presented) The method of claim **51** wherein said decrypting the portion of encrypted text occurs within a patched operating system function for outputting content.

62. (Currently amended) The method of claim **61** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ TextOut function.

63. (Currently amended) The method of claim **61** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Macintosh~~ DrawText function.

64 - 66. (Canceled)

67. (Currently amended) The method of claim **51** wherein said ~~determining~~ dynamically generating comprises calculating widths of character strings.

68. (Currently amended) The method of claim **67** wherein said ~~determining~~ dynamically generating comprises decrypting encrypted text strings.

69. (Original) The method of claim **68** wherein said decrypting encrypted text strings occurs within a patched operating system function for determining widths of character strings.

70. (Currently amended) The method of claim **69** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ GetTextExtent function.

71. (Previously presented) The method of claim **51** further comprising receiving the page having the portion of encrypted text from a server computer.

72. (Currently amended) A system for protecting text contained within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

computer hardware storing a page containing a portion of encrypted text;

a graphics device;

a page renderer rendering the page into said graphics device, comprising:

a page formatter controlling a display layout for the page, by ~~determining~~ dynamically generating a display layout based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text instead of spatial characteristics of encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to that of a page containing decrypted text, wherein spatial characteristics of text include at least one of (a) positions of characters, (b) heights of characters, (c) widths of characters, (d) widths of words, (e) shapes of characters, (f) spacings between characters, (g) spacings between words, (h) spacings between lines, (i) numbers of characters per line, (j) numbers of words per line, (k) page margins, and (l) paragraph indentations;

a text decoder decrypting the portion of encrypted text prior to display of page; and

an output processor converting text into graphics output; and

a display device displaying at least a portion of data from said graphics device.

73. (Original) The system of claim **72** wherein the page is a web page.

74. (Original) The system of claim **73** wherein the web page is an HTML page.

75. (Original) The system of claim **73** wherein the web page is an XML page.

76. (Original) The system of claim **72** wherein the page is part of a document produced by a software application.

77. (Original) The system of claim **72** wherein said graphics device is a memory device.

78. (Original) The system of claim **72** wherein said graphics device is a screen device.

79. (Original) The system of claim **72** wherein said graphics device is a graphics port.

80. (Canceled)

81. (Previously presented) The system of claim **72** wherein the graphics output is raster output.

82. (Previously presented) The system of claim **72** wherein said text decoder operates within a patched operating system function for outputting content.

83. (Currently amended) The system of claim **82** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ TextOut function.

84. (Currently amended) The system of claim **82** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Macintosh~~ DrawText function.

85 - 87. (Canceled)

88. (Previously presented) The system of claim **72** wherein said page formatter comprises a string analyzer calculating widths of character strings.

89. (Previously presented) The system of claim **88** wherein said page formatter comprises a string decoder decrypting encrypted text strings.

90. (Original) The system of claim **89** wherein said string decoder operates within a patched operating system function for determining widths of character strings.

91. (Currently amended) The system of claim **90** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ GetTextExtent function.

92. (Previously presented) The system of claim **72** further comprising:

a network connector; and

a receiver receiving the page having the portion of encrypted text from a server computer via said network connector.

93 - 114. (Canceled)

115. (Currently amended) A method for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

dynamically formatting a page containing a first portion of text to determine a page layout for display, comprising intervening with at least one function that controls page display layouts, to base the page layout on spatial characteristics of a second portion of text instead of spatial characteristics of a first portion of text, to

ensure that the display layout corresponds to that of a page containing the second portion of text, wherein spatial characteristics of text include at least one of (a) positions of characters, (b) heights of characters, (c) widths of characters, (d) widths of words, (e) shapes of characters, (f) spacings between characters, (g) spacings between words, (h) spacings between lines, (i) numbers of characters per line, (j) numbers of words per line, (k) page margins, and (l) paragraph indentations; and

rendering the page according to the page layout into a graphics device, comprising:

replacing the first portion of text with the second portion of text;

converting the second portion of text to a graphics output; and

writing the graphics output into the graphics device.

116. (Original) The method of claim **115** wherein the first portion of text has the same word widths as does the second portion of text.

117. (Original) The method of claim **115** wherein the graphics output is raster output.

118. (Previously presented) The method of claim **115** wherein said replacing the first portion of text with the second portion of text occurs within a patched operating system function for converting text into graphics output.

119. (Currently amended) The method of claim **118** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ TextOut function.

120. (Currently amended) The method of claim **118** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Macintosh~~ DrawText function.

121. (Original) The method of claim **115** wherein said formatting comprises:

replacing first text strings with second text strings; and

calculating widths of the second text strings based on selected font types and font sizes.

122. (Original) The method of claim **121** wherein said replacing first text strings with second text strings occurs within a patched operating system function for determining widths of character strings.

123. (Currently amended) The method of claim **122** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ GetTextExtent function.

124. (Currently amended) A system for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

a page formatter dynamically formatting a page containing a first portion of text to determine a page layout for display, but based on spatial characteristics of a second portion of text instead of spatial characteristics of a first portion of text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to that of a page containing the second portion of text, wherein spatial characteristics of text include at least one of (a) positions of characters, (b) heights of characters, (c) widths of characters, (d) widths of words, (e) shapes of characters, (f) spacings between characters, (g) spacings between words, (h) spacings between lines, (i) numbers of characters per line, (j) numbers of words per line, (k) page margins, and (l) paragraph indentations; and

a page renderer rendering the page according to the page layout into a graphics device, comprising:

a text processor replacing the first portion of text with a second portion of text; and

a text convertor converting the second portion of text to a graphics output and writing the graphics output into the graphics device.

125. (Original) The system of claim **124** wherein the first portion of text has the same word widths as does the second portion of text.

126. (Previously presented) The system of claim **124** wherein the graphics output is raster output.

127. (Original) The system of claim **124** wherein said text processor operates within a patched operating system function for converting text into graphics output.

128. (Currently amended) The system of claim **127** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ TextOut function.

129. (Currently amended) The system of claim **127** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Macintosh~~ DrawText function.

130. (Original) The system of claim **124** wherein said formatter comprises:

a string processor replacing first text strings with second text strings; and

a string analyzer calculating widths of the second text strings based on selected font types and font sizes.

131. (Original) The system of claim **130** wherein said string processor operates within a patched operating system function for determining widths of character strings.

132. (Currently amended) The system of claim **131** wherein the operating system function is a ~~Microsoft Windows~~ GetTextExtent function.

133 - 140. (Canceled)

141. (Currently amended) A method for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

replacing first text strings with second text strings within a patched operating system function, the operating system function being used for ~~when~~ formatting a page to determine a page display layout; and

replacing a first portion of text with a second portion of text when rendering the page according to the page display layout into a graphics device.

142. (Currently amended) A system for protecting text within a page displayed by a computer, comprising:

a string processor replacing first text strings with second text strings, said string processor operating within a patched operating system function used for ~~when~~ formatting a page to determine a page display layout; and

a text processor replacing a first portion of text with a second portion of text when rendering the page according to the page display layout into a graphics device.

143. (Previously presented) A method for displaying a page containing text on a computer screen by an Internet web browser, which protects the text from being copied, comprising rendering a source file for a page containing text, by an Internet web browser that opens the source file, into graphics output, wherein

(i) when displayed on a computer screen by the Internet web browser, the page containing text appears with a first portion of text;

(ii) an electronic capture of the screen data produces an image containing a second portion of text instead of the first portion of text, the second portion of text being different than the first portion of text; and

(iii) the source file opened by the Internet web browser to render the page contains a third portion of text in place of the first portion of text, the third portion of text being different than the first portion of text.

144. (Previously presented) The method of claim **143** wherein the source file is a text document file.

145. (Previously presented) The method of claim **143** wherein the source file is an HTML file.

146. (Previously presented) The method of claim **143** wherein the second portion of text is an encryption of the first portion of text.

147. (Previously presented) The method of claim **143** wherein the third portion of text is an encryption of the first portion of text.

148. (Previously presented) The method of claim **143** wherein the second portion of text is identical to the third portion of text.

149. (Previously presented) The method of claim **143** wherein the second portion of text is different than the third portion of text.

150. (Previously presented) The method of claim **143** wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is performed by a PrintScreen command.

151. (Previously presented) The method of claim **143** wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is performed by a Copy command and a Paste command.

152. (Previously presented) The method of claim **143** wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is written to a computer memory.

153. (Previously presented) The method of claim **143** wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is written to a clipboard.

154 - 156. (Canceled)

157. (Previously presented) A system for displaying a page containing text on a computer screen by an Internet web browser, which protects the text from being copied, comprising an Internet web browser for opening a source file for a page containing text and for rendering the page into graphics output for display on a computer screen, wherein

(i) when displayed on a the computer screen by said Internet web browser, the page containing text appears with a first portion of text;

(ii) an electronic capture of the screen data produces an image containing a second portion of text instead of the first portion of text, the second portion of text being different than the first portion of text; and

(iii) the source file opened by said Internet web browser to render the page contains a third portion of text in place of the first portion of text, the third portion of text being different than the first portion of text.

158. (Previously presented) The system of claim **157** wherein the source file is a text document file.

159. (Previously presented) The system of claim **157** wherein the source file is an HTML file.

160. (Previously presented) The system of claim **157** wherein the second portion of text is an encryption of the first portion of text.

161. (Previously presented) The system of claim **157** wherein the third portion of text is an encryption of the first portion of text.

162. (Previously presented) The system of claim **157** wherein the second portion of text is identical to the third portion of text.

163. (Previously presented) The system of claim **157** wherein the second portion of text is different than the third portion of text.

164. (Previously presented) The system of claim **157** wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is performed by a PrintScreen command.

165. (Previously presented) The system of claim **157** wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is performed by a Copy command and a Paste command.

166. (Previously presented) The system of claim **157** wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is written to a computer memory.

167. (Previously presented) The system of claim **157** wherein the electronic capture of the screen data is written to a clipboard.

168 - 170. (Canceled)

171. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a device to perform the steps of:

identifying a designated portion of original text contained within a page, to be protected;

modifying the page, comprising:

encrypting the designated portion of original text to form a portion of encrypted text; and

replacing the designated portion of original text within the page with the portion of encrypted text;

rendering the page into a graphics device, comprising:

~~intervening with at least one function that controls page display layouts, comprising determining~~ dynamically generating a display layout for the page based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text instead of spatial characteristics of the encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout for the page corresponds to that of a page containing the designated portion of original text, said determining comprising decrypting encrypted text strings within a patched operating system function, the operating system function being used for determining spatial characteristics of text, wherein spatial characteristics of text include at least one of (a) positions of characters, (b) heights of characters, (c) widths of characters, (d) widths of words, (e) shapes of characters, (f) spacings between characters, (g) spacings between words, (h) spacings between lines, (i) numbers of characters per line, (j) numbers of words per line, (k) page margins, and (l) paragraph indentations;

decrypting the portion of encrypted text prior to displaying the page; and

converting text into graphics output; and

displaying at least a portion of data from the graphics device.

172. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a device to perform the steps of:

accessing a page containing a portion of encrypted text;

rendering the page into a graphics device, comprising:

intervening with at least one function that controls page display layouts, comprising ~~determining~~ dynamically generating a display layout for the page based on spatial characteristics of decrypted text instead of spatial characteristics of the encrypted text, to ensure that the display layout for the page corresponds to that of a page containing decrypted text, wherein spatial characteristics of text include at least one of (a) positions of characters, (b) heights of

characters, (c) widths of characters, (d) widths of words, (e) shapes of characters, (f) spacings between characters, (g) spacings between words, (h) spacings between lines, (i) numbers of characters per line, (j) numbers of words per line, (k) page margins, and (l) paragraph indentations;

decrypting the portion of encrypted text prior to displaying the page; and

converting content into graphics output; and

displaying at least a portion of data from the graphics device.

173. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a device to perform the steps of:

formatting a page containing a first portion of text to determine a page layout for display, comprising intervening with at least one function that controls page display layouts, to base the page layout on spatial characteristics of a second portion of text instead of spatial characteristics of a first portion of text, to ensure that the display layout corresponds to that of a page containing the second portion of text, wherein spatial characteristics of text include at least one of (a) positions of characters, (b) heights of characters, (c) widths of characters, (d) widths of words, (e) shapes of characters, (f) spacings between characters, (g) spacings between words, (h) spacings between lines, (i) numbers of characters per line, (j) numbers of words per line, (k) page margins, and (l) paragraph indentations; and

rendering the page according to the page layout into a graphics device, comprising:

replacing the first portion of text with the second portion of text;

converting the second portion of text to a graphics output; and

writing the graphics output into the graphics device.

174. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a device to perform the steps of:

replacing first text strings with second text strings within a patched operating system function, the operating system function being used for ~~when~~ formatting a page to determine a page display layout; and

replacing a first portion of text with a second portion of text when rendering the page according to the page display layout into a graphics device.

175. (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a device to perform the step of:

rendering a source file for a page containing text, by an Internet web browser that opens the source file, into graphics output, wherein

(i) when displayed on a computer screen by the Internet web browser, the page containing text appears with a first portion of text;

(ii) an electronic capture of the screen data produces an image containing a second portion of text instead of the first portion of text, the second portion of text being different than the first portion of text; and

(iii) the source file opened by the Internet web browser to render the page contains a third portion of text in place of the first portion of text, the third portion of text being different than the first portion of text.